Sol A. Bauer Personal Papers

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Summary Information

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Repository Ingalls Library and Museum Archives

Title Sol A. Bauer Personal Papers

Date 1930s-1982

Extent 0.33 Cubic feet

Language English

Preferred Citation note

The Cleveland Museum of Art Archives, Sol A. Bauer Personal papers, date and short description of document [e.g. Certificate of Merit, Cleveland Museum of Art May Show, 1939].

Biographical/Historical note

Sol Bauer (1898-1982) practiced his art as an avocation. He earned a degree in civil engineering from Case School of Applied Science and during his professional life was a prominent licensed surveyor in private practice. He was active in professional societies including the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Canadian Institute of Surveyors, and the Cleveland Society of Professional Engineers.

Bauer allowed himself fifteen hours each week to sculpt in wood. Although he began carving soapstone as a child, his only arts education were night classes with Walter Sinz at the Cleveland School of Art. His compositions were defined by the form and grain of each block of wood. He made no preliminary models. Bauer was encouraged to enter his work in the museum's May Show in 1928 and became a regular exhibitor, often winning prizes. His sculptures were also exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Chicago Art Institute, Dayton Art Institute, and Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in addition to local galleries. For a time, Bauer served on the Fine Arts Advisory Committee of the Cleveland City Planning Commission. Of his work Mr. Bauer said "In these thick-limbed, heavy torsoed figures I see a sad beauty, like the patient nobility I want to insinuate into their...faces (Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 8, 1949)."

Scope and Contents note

This small collection includes images and inventories of artworks and a scrapbook documenting Mr. Bauer's exhibitions and awards. Additional information on the artist can be found in Ingalls Library clipping files and the museum archives May Show database.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Ingalls Library and Museum Archives

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to the public. For more information or to access this collection contact archives staff at archives 2@clevelandart.org.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Sally Bauer Block, 2015

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

• Bauer, Sol A., 1898-1982

Subject(s)

- Art -- Ohio -- Cleveland.
- Artists -- Ohio -- Cleveland.
- Sculpture, American 20th Century

Collection Inventory

Greeting Cards undated

Photographs of artworks undated

Sculpture catalog number one 1950s-1960s

Sculpture inventory 1958-1959

Scrapbook 1930s-1982